(916) 324-5711

OCTOBER 2 1990

Str. 1663

In Reply Refer To:331:WT:S-4663

R. C. Roberts 801 A Street San Rafael, CA 94901

Dear Mr. Roberts:

STATEMENT OF WATER DIVERSION AND USE No. 4663 (BUCKHORN RESERVOIR) - BUCKHORN CANYON IN LASSEN COUNTY

This is an acknowledgement of your August 28, 1990 letter in which you disagree with the contents of our July 17, 1990 letter to the U. S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). It is our understanding from telephone conversations with you on August 22, August 27, and September 10, 1990 that you do not agree with: 1) the chronology indicating possible nonuse of the 2,000 acre-feet of water held in Buckhorn Reservoir, and our resulting statement that the pre-1914 appropriative right may have been lost; 2) our previous action in designating Statement of Water Diversion and Use No. 4663 (Statement 4663) as an inactive file; and 3) our statement that you had advised staff that you no longer had any concerns with the upstream facilities of BLM.

We reviewed the files for Statement No. 4663, Complaint 18-14, and Applications 28051, 28493, 28494, 28780, and 28781. Based upon the material contained in those files, the chronology of events reflected in our July 17, 1990 letter to BLM was correct. Your primary concern is that this office is making a determination as to whether or not the old storage right for Buckhorn Reservoir was lost because of nonuse. We did not make such a determination. Please note that in the last paragraph of our July 17 letter, as well as in several telephone discussions with you, we have stressed the fact that the State Water Resources Control Board has "no jurisdiction" to make a binding determination on this type of water right. That authority lies with the California judicial system. In addition, please recall that our July 17, 1990 letter was merely a response to BLM's request for information from our files for the status and history of water rights in the Buckhorn Canyon drainage. Since most of our microfiche records are of such poor quality that readable copies could not be reproduced, we prepared the chronology listing instead.

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Our previous action to identify Statement 4663 as inactive was likely based upon the lack of supplemental reports in the file subsequent to 1975. Enclosed is a copy of the 1981 to 1983 supplemental report showing no use of water and consequently staff's note, in the lower right hand corner, listing the file as inactive. Since we can not make readable copies of the file, please feel free to visit our office and review the file personally.

Our statement that you had indicated no further concerns with BLM's upstream dam's was based on information in a contact report dated August 21, 1979 of a conversation between Mr. Wynn Rowlands of our Complaint Section and you. A copy of the contact report is enclosed.

You submitted a new Statement of Water Diversion and Use form claiming a 1904 right for Buckhorn Reservoir. Based on this filing, we will reactivate the Statement 4663 file. Even though you indicated your actual use of water occurs during the months of May through September, the water being utilized during that period appears to be water that you had collected to storage during the wet season of the year. The right claimed under Statement 4663, which originally was filed by Lucille French in 1969, is for storage of 2,000 acre-feet per annum. This is not to say that your property may not also possess a riparian entitlement to the natural flows of Buckhorn Canyon. We ask that when you receive supplemental Statement forms, you give them your immediate attention and return them to this office so that our files will represent your current use of water.

As indicated in our July 17, 1990 letter, the only rights upstream of your facility are permitted Applications 28051, 28493, 28494, 28780, and 28781 for stockwatering reservoirs having a capacity no greater than 1 acre-foot. All such permits are issued subject to prior vested rights.

In your telephone inquiry with Whalen Toy of my staff on September 19, 1990, you indicated that Round Corral Reservoir was located within the NE 1/4 of SW 1/4 Section 16, T 34 N, R 16 E, MDB&M. Following review of our records, we advised you that there were no filings with our Board in Section 16 either a water right appropriation or Statement of Water Diversion and Use. You also inquired about Buckhorn Lake and Pilgrim Reservoir. We advised you that we have no record of rights on Buckhorn Lake although the U. S. Geological Survey maps indicate that it existed prior to 1954. It appears that Pilgrim Reservoir is located in the State of Nevada, therefore, our Board does not have any water rights jurisdiction at that facility.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 324-5711.

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Sincerely,

### ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Roger Dupuis, Chief Application Unit #1

**Enclosures** 

cc: U.S. Bureau of Land Management c/o Rick Hanks 2545 Riverside Drive Susanville, CA 96130

bcc NFB

S4663/WTOY/wt/10-1-90

CONTACT REPORT  DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS  STATE WATER REQUERTS CONTROL BOARD  Division Personnel W (04 Dute 9/19/90 Time 1345  APPLICATION CLAUT Personal Where  Telephone M Number 415/4568600  Individual(s)/Agency Contacted R C ROBERTS  Conversation Description Spoke with the Roberts who was undurating on BLIM TACLLITIES which the CLAUMS TO APPEAR thes  RIGHTS. THE SITE ARE ROUND APPEAR WITHIN HE SW, H, TEL  N/RIGE MORGH, BUCKLOOPEN LAKE WITHIN SWAW, H, TELM  RIDE & D PLEGRAM LAKE WITHIN HWALW 29, TELM REE  MORGH, I ADUISED HIM THAT  (D - No FILINGS ON ONE MAD TOTE WATER RIGHTS  (B) - FACILITY IS IM KLONDAY, WE HOW NO JURESDICTION  Decision(s)  Action Hems.	O	
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· DES/WT



801 A Street, San Rafael, CA 94901 Phone (415) 456-8600

August 28, 1990

Division of Water Rights P.O. Box 2000 Sacramento, CA 95810

Re: 331:WT:S4663

#### Gentlemen:

I am in receipt of your letter dated July 17, 1990. I adamantly disagree with your statement of facts on a number of items.

Upon purchase of this property, I personally visited your office to discuss the water rights issue and was informed that this was a pre-1914 dam and there were no problems with water rights. What prompted my visit prior to purchase was when Mr. Kroesen had informed me that a problem existed with the structure of the dam - the fact that the head gate was not operable and had been removed and replaced on the outlet side of the dam and they had used the water to irrigate the Horne Meadow but were in violation of dam safety requirements.

I proceeded to employ a civil engineer to submit plans and specifications for repair, took out construction permits, and completed construction and final inspections with a cost in excess of \$75,000. I have continuously (every year) been subject to inspection by dam safety and taken all corrective measures required by said inspections. There has been no interruption of use from this facility. In some years the spillway did spill water; in the majority of those years, it did not.

Under my ownership no one could ascertain if they viewed the premises; that this was an inactive facility. At no time did I ever inform any member of the State of California that we were not actively using the storage facility.

Division of Water Rights August 28, 1990 Page 2

On numerous occasions I met with Mr. Mark Morris of the Eagle Lake Resource Office of the Bureau of Land Management and discussed alternatives for the improper impoundment of my water in the Buckhorn Drainage. Mr. Morris and I concluded, in agreement, to jointly pursue the construction of a dam on the Painter Creek Drainage. We worked with a staff engineer of the BLM, Mr. James Buffum, filed on water rights for drainage, secured said rights, and prepared engineering plans (at my cost) for construction of Bo Roberts Dam. As of late the BLM has not and does not wish to honor the committments agreed to by Mr. Mark Morris and confirmed by Mr. Rex Cleary.

In regard to the matter of applications and permits jointly held by BLM and permitees: they were never represented by BLM that they were anything more than stock ponds and by separate agreement I, and others, are obligated for their maintenance. This filing never intended or envisioned transferring my water rights, established in 1904, on the Round Corral Dam - which has a capacity of approximately 350 acre feet. The Round Corral Dam was constructed by the BLM without any structural permits, dam safety, nor does it contain an outlet.

I believe that with the present posture of BLM and their absence to honor their agreements made by Mr. Mark Morris and confirmed by Mr. Rex Cleary. I have no alternative than to demand that all drainage water within the Buckhorn Drainage be undiverted or not impounded. In absence of that, we shall seek legal remedy, including damages, from the BLM and the State of California.

I would appreciate an immediate response and am directing a copy of this letter to Mr. Rick Hanks of the Susanville District BLM office.

Sincerely,

R.C. Roberts

RCR/da

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pis. My correct address is 801 A Street in San Rafael, CA 94901 We have numerous dams, water diversions, and water rights in Lassen and Glen counties. If anything is in jeopardy, please so inform us.

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

1990 AUG 31 AH 1: 43 DIV. OF WATER RICHTS SACRAMENTO

### STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

STATE WATER RESOURCES

CONTROL BOARD

CONTROL BOARD

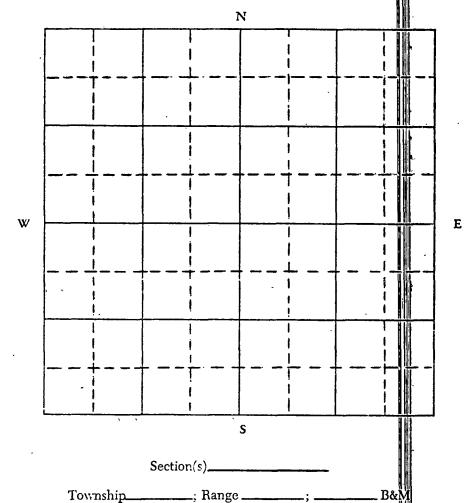
STATEMENT OF WATER DIVERSION AND USE

(This is not a Water Right)

This statement should be typewritten or legibly written in link.

	DC P-/-T DIV. OF WATER RIGHTS
Α.	Name of person diverting water BC BOBET S SACRAMENTO
	Address 80/ A ST San Rotos/ 9490/ Telephone: 4N 456-8600
В.	Name of body of water at point of diversion Bockhorn Dilangs
٠.	Tributary to
_	Place of diversion
U.	County, or locate it on sketch of section grid on reverse side with regard to section
	lines or prominent local landmarks.
•	Name of works Bock horn RES 331: WT: 54663
Ε.	Capacity of diversion works  Capacity of diversion works
	Capacity of storage reservoiracre-feet
	State quantity of water used each month in gallons or acre-feet  Total
	Year Jan. Feb. Mar. Apr. May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. Annual
_	100 500 500 500 100 1 1900 7.
	If monthly and annual use are not known, check months in which water was used. State extent of use in
	units; such as acres of each crop irrigated, average number of persons served, number of stock watered, etc.
	300 ACVE MESOLOW POSTCHE IVIGATED FORM VERY  Maximum annual water use in recent years 1900 ACVE FEET gallons
,	Maximum annual water use in recent yearsacre-feet
	Minimum annual water use in recent yearsacre-feet
١,	Type of diversion facility: gravity, pump
	ethod of measurement: weir, flume, electric power meter, water meter, estimate
F.	Purpose of use (what water is being used for)
G.	General description or location of place of use (use sketch of section grid on reverse side if you desire)
	MOLENDALE FIAT EOST SIDE HOIN MANCH
Н.	Year of first use as nearly as known 1904
I.	Name of person filing statement RC Rob Ft-15
	Position Owner of Ravel Organization
	Address 80/ A 57 Bay Botos/ Telephone: 415 458 \$ 600
	I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
	DATED: 19 90, at San for Take, California.
	Signature:
	Ww. 40 (6/83)  See Instructions on Reverse Side

The location of the diversion point and the place of use may be sketched on this section grid. If it is used, please enter the section(s), township and range below and show any streams or other landmarks that will assist in identifying the area.



### INSTRUCTIONS:

A separate statement should be filed for each point of diversion.

A duplicate copy will be returned for your file.

Please send the completed statement to: STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

Division of Water Rights

P. 0. Box 2000

Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

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CONTACT REPORT		P	C ROBJETS - 5 4663
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Application Unit	Personal Where Where Number 415456 8606
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CONTACT REPORT  Subject S-4663 - ROBARTS
DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS
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Division Personnel 10 Toy Date 8 2 2 90 Time 0950
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Individual(s)/Agency Contacted R.C., ROBERTS - 801 A STREET
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94901
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CONTACT REPORT	Subject \$4663 ~ RC ROBJET
DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD	300/001
Division Personnel 6 64	
Spplication Chit	_ Personal  Where
	_ Telephone Number 323 (42)
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(916) 324-5739

JULY 1 7 1990

In Reply Refer
to:331:WT:S4663

U.S. Bureau of Land Management c/o David Lehmann 2545 Riverside Drive Susanville, CA 96130

Gentlemen:

WATER RIGHTS INQUIRY AND STATEMENT OF WATER DIVERSION AND USE NO. 4663 - BUCKHORN CANYON IN LASSEN COUNTY

In response to your June 14, 1990 inquiry, following is a chronology of events from the file for Statement of Water Diversion and Use No. 4663:

- Lucille French's Statement of Water Diversion and Use (SWDU) was received on January 2, 1969 and eventually was assigned No. 4663. She was filing a claim of right for Buckhorn Reservoir having a capacity estimated at 2,000 acre-feet and located within the NE1/4 of SE1/4 of Section 31, T35N, R17E, MDB&M. The first use of water was given as 1904. The purpose of use was for irrigation and stockwatering.
- On September 15, 1970, the Division of Water Rights (Division) was advised by staff from the Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams (DSD) that Buckhorn Dam was owned by Joseph B. Kroesen.
- Lucille French submitted supplemental reports of use for SWDU No. 4663 covering the period from 1970 to 1975. The source of water was designated as Secret Creek (springs) instead of Buckhorn Dam, but specific locations of the springs were not given. Use of water was listed as irrigation of 650 acres and water for 900 head of livestock.
- On January 27, 1975, the Division replied to a U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) inquiry as to water use in the Buckhorn Canyon drainage. The Division advised BLM that SWDU No. 4663 was on file, apparently claiming a pre-1914 appropriative right for storage.
- On November 12, 1976, Joseph B. Kroesen wrote BLM complaining that the construction of its dam in Rodeo Flat would impact his water right (see summary below on the Kroesen complaint).

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- Division staff spoke with BLM on November 15, 1976 and again advised the agency of SWDU No. 4663. We indicated that it was our understanding from DSD that Joseph B. Kroesen was the new owner of Buckhorn Reservoir, however Lucille French still retained title to the surrounding lands. DSD indicated that 1) the facility was within its jurisdiction and was considered unsafe; 2) the facility was presently out of service and all surface water was being passed downstream through an outlet pipe; and 3) Kroesen had submitted plans to DSD for repair of the facility.
- On November 19, 1976, the Division made an inquiry as to BLM's basis of right for its dam being built upstream of Buckhorn Dam (see summary below on the Kroesen complaint).
- On March 10, 1977, Lucille French submitted two new SWDU claims for diversions in the Secret Creek drainage. The sources for one SWDU were within Sections 1, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 23, 26 and 35, T32N, R15E, and Sections 2, 3 and 4, T31N, R15E, MDB&M. The second SWDU named the source as Pearson Springs located within Sections 2 and 3, T31N, R15E, MDB&M.
- On April 19, 1977, the Division acknowledged the change of ownership of Buckhorn Reservoir to Joseph B. Kroesen and that it was understood that plans were pending before DSD to bring the facility up to DSD standards. The Division also requested that new supplemental reports of use for SWDU No. 4663 be submitted since Lucille French's 1970 to 1975 reports were for diversions from Secret Creek springs, not for Buckhorn Dam. Kroesen was advised that a SWDU was required for each diversion being used under riparian or pre-1914 appropriative claim.
- On May 3, 1977, Joseph B. Kroesen filed, on behalf of Lucille French, amended supplemental reports of use for SWDU No. 4663 for the period of 1969 through 1974. The source of water was listed as Pilgrim Creek Lake rather than Buckhorn Dam. The diversion was describe as being within the NE1/4 of SE1/4 of Section 2, T34N, R16E, MDB&M. Use of water was indicated as irrigation of 300 acres.
- On June 3, 1977, the Division acknowledged receipt of Lucille French's 1977 SWDU forms, however, the Division advised that a SWDU for each diversion was necessary. Mrs. French eventually submitted forms for numerous diversions throughout her property, which were filed as SWDU Nos. 10822-10833 and 10871-10878. None of these new SWDU's are for sites upstream of Buckhorn Reservoir.
- The Division sent a follow-up letter to BLM on June 3, 1977 requesting that the agency reply to Kroesen's May 26, 1977 complaint against a BLM facility (see summary below on the Kroesen complaint).
- The Division received a Notice of Assignment of SWDU No. 4663 to R. C. Roberts as of August 8, 1978.

- The last correspondence in the SWDU No. 4663 file is an uncompleted supplemental report of use for the period of 1981 to 1983. There is notation made by Division staff that as of January 23, 1984, SWDU 46 was be to listed as as inactive use.
- In early June 1990, R. C. Roberts made a telephone inquiry as to the status of SWDU No. 4663. Division staff informed Mr. Roberts that t file was shown as inactive. He was advised that if there was a continuous break in use of more than five years, the old storage rig for Buckhorn Reservoir may have been legally lost.

Following is a chronology of events from Kroesen's complaint on a dam upstre of Buckhorn Reservoir (file 18-14):

- On November 16, 1976, Joseph B. Kroesen filed a complaint with the Division against the Fish and Game Board for a dam at Rodeo Flat, upstream of Buckhorn Dam. The agency Kroesen was apparently referri to was BLM.
- On June 9, 1977, BLM informed the Division that the District Manager and its solicitor were working on the Kroesen complaint.
- Division staff conducted an on-site investigation of the area on June 26, 1977. Staff found that two ponds were built upstream by BL Both reservoirs were dry and each had no outlet device to bypass water. It was noted that beside the pond in Rodeo Flat, the Pilgrim reservoir site was located in Nevada, thus not being within the Stat of California's jurisdiction.
- A telephone conversation between Division staff and the BLM solicito on August 3, 1977 indicated that to resolve the situation BLM will release water after July 1 by using siphon devices at both facilitie
- The complaint file was closed on August 21, 1979. The file contains information that R. C. Roberts, successor in interest to Kroesen, indicated to Division staff that his facility (Buckhorn Reservoir) we repaired and had satisfied or cleared DSD requirements. The file all indicates that R. C. Roberts had no further concerns with BLM upstre dams.

Our records show that the only other water rights upstream of Buckhorn Reservoir are permitted Applications 28051, 28493, 28494, 28780, and 28781. These permits are jointly held by BLM, R. C. Roberts, Espil Sheep Ranch, Fre Ranch, and Dodge Ranch. None of the five storage applications received protests, therefore, no issues of injury to downstream vested rights or environmental impacts were raised. Notwithstanding, these permits are subjeto all prior vested rights.

Presently, the Division has no information that water is being collected and used for SWDU No. 4663 to be reactivated. Please note that even though the Division has identified the file as inactive, it can be re-activated if information warrants. The State Board has no authority to declare any right claimed under a SWDU either legally valid or lost due to non-use, since such jurisdiction lies totally with the courts. Should the old right for Buckhorn Reservoir be legally determined to have been lost by five consecutive years of non-use, then an application to appropriate water should be filed with our Board.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 324-5739. Sincerely,

## ORIGINAL SIGNED BY.

Whalen Toy Sanitary Engineering Associate Application Unit #1

cc: R. C. Roberts Box 178 Novato, CA 94947

!WTOY: ym:LS4663:7/5/90

in REPLY REFER TO:
2800 (CA-026)
CA-21730



## United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT EAGLE LAKE RESOURCE AREA

2545 Riverside Drive Susanville, California 96130

JUN 14 1990

Division of Water Rights Attn: Mr. Wayean Toy P.O. Box 2000 Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Dear Mr. Toy:

Please send us all the information you have on the status and history of water rights on the Buckhorn Canyon drainage in T.36N., R.17E., Mount Diablo Meridian, Lassen County. This is in regards to Statement number 4663 as Don Wannebo of this office discussed with you on June 13, 1990.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

David Lehmann Acting Area Manager

# STATE OF CALIFORNIA THE RESOURCES AGENCY

### STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

### DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

## STATEMENT OF WATER DIVERSION AND USE

This statement should be typewritten or legibly written in ink.

S1663

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